Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 02806 201556Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 INR-07 IO-13 SP-02 PRS-01
DHA-02 NSC-05 DODE-00 CIAE-00 /056 W
----------202320Z 027437 /73 S
R 201501Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5816
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
USMISSION SINAI
USMISSION USUN NY

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 2806

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MARR, IS, EG
SUBJECT: EXCHANGE OF EQYPTIAN DETAINEES AND ISRAELI DEAD

REFS: (A) JERUSAELM 0561; (B) CAIRO 6532

1. THE EXCHANGE OF EGYPTIAN PRISONERS FOR ISRAELI DEAD WAS ANNOUNCED TO THE ISRAELI MEDIA ON APRIL 19 AND HAS BEEN GIVEN EXTENSIVE COVERAGE IN THE PRESS AND RADIO. THERE WAS GENERAL SATISFACTION THAT THE EXCHANGE HAS TAKEN PLACE, ALTHOUGH DANI BLOCH IN A COMMENT IN DAVAR APRIL 20 ACCUSED CAIRO OF "UGLY" NEGOTIATIONS AND SAID THAT EGYPT HAS EXPLOITED THE SITUATION, "KNOWING FULL WELL ISRAEL'S SENSITIVITY IN THIS RESPECT." THERE IS PARTICULAR POIGNANCY FOR ISRAELIS IN THE EXCHANGE IN VIEW OF THE OBSERVANCE ON APRIL 20 OF THE DAY OF REMEMBERANCE IN HONOR OF THE CASUALTIES SUFFERED BY ISRAEL IN ITS WARS SINCE INDEPENDANCE.

2. THE CEREMONY IN THE SINAI WHERE THE EXCHANGE TOOK PLACE WAS ATTENDED BY PRIME MINISTER RABIN, DEFENSE MINISTER PERES AND FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON. THE HELICOPTER
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CARRYING THE PRIME MINISTER' S PARTY (INCLUDING ALLON) DEVELOPED MECHANICAL TROUBLE AND HAD TO MAKE AN EMERGENCY LANDING NEAR GAZA ON THE RETURN FROM SINAI. A REPLACEMENT HELICOPTER ARRIVED AFTER A 30 MINUTE DELAY AND THE PARTY'S RETURN WAS CARRIED OUT WITHOUT FURTHER DIFFICULTY.

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3. THE PRESS REPORTS THAT 46 PRISONERS WERE RETURNED
AND THAT TEN OF THE PRISONERS REFUSED TO RETURN TO
EGYPT AND AT THEIR REQUEST WERE BROUGHT BACK TO THE
PRISON IN ISRAEL. THE OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT SAID THE
TRANSFER HAD BEEN ARRANGED BY THE UN COMMAND IN JERUSALEM
IN COLLABORATION WITH THE ICRC. BURIED IN THE
PRESS COVERAGE IS AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY PERES THAT
"THE U.S. HAD HELPED WITH THE NEGOTIATIONS."
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KIA, PRISONER EXCHANGE, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 20-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770137-1006
Format: TEL
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770436/aaaabezs.tel
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Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 JERUSALEM 561, 77 CAIRO 6532
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
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SAS ID: 2743893
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXCHANGE OF EQYPTIAN DETAINEES AND ISRAELI DEAD
TAGS: MARR, IS, EG
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a901b1a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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